

REMARKS

The Office Action of December 28, 2005 indicates that claims 23-25 and 39-41 are allowable, with minor correction with respect to Section 112. The allowable claims 23-25 and 39-41 have been amended to overcome the Section 112 rejection.

Claim 15 is rewritten to include all of the limitations of claim 23 and any intervening claim.

In claim 24, "printcoat layer" is deleted as it is now part of independent claim 15.

Generally, the term "laminate" is replaced with controlled droplet-formed layered structure or the like, to provide proper antecedent basis.

With respect to claim 23, which is now rewritten as claim 15, the Office Action indicates that the claim does not recite the order of the layers. That is correct, and nothing in the Patent Code, Rules or MPEP requires that the specific order be recited. Novelty and non-obviousness reside, *inter alia*, in the specific layers, but not in the order in which they appear in a particular embodiment.

With respect to claim 41, the term "matrix" is well known to those skilled in the label art. "Matrix" is the facestock that is left over after labels are die cut. "Matrix-free", as those skilled in the art will recognize, simply means there is not a matrix.

Also in claim 41, the explanation that the label is a label on a sheet of labels, simply means that the label is one of a plurality of labels that is on a sheet, thereby forming a sheet of labels. Again, this will be apparent to one skilled in the art who is reading the claim, which satisfies the requirements of the patent laws.

The remaining claims have been cancelled, solely for the purpose of obtaining a Notice of Allowance on the allowable claims, and without prejudice to re-assert the claims in a continuation application, if desired.